

## 2016 Year End Review

As 2016 draws to a close, this is an excellent opportunity to review the District's performance for the year and discuss our goals and objectives for 2017.

When we look back at 2016, the one word that comes to mind is snow! After four years of marginal snow and the trials and tribulations drought conditions bring, it was a great relief to have an average snow year.

The District reacted well to the snow and increased business volume by topping the \$9 million dollar mark in annual revenues for the first time in its 31-year history. Operating expenses were held in check to close below the totals from the previous year. This successful year helped the Board lower Electric Usage Rates in July by €1.3 per kilowatt hour. The methodology for calculating Electric and Propane Base Rates was changed, resulting in a drop in the Electric Base Rates from \$21.25 per month to \$13.55, a drop of 36% for the majority of our customers.

In the spring, PG&E informed the Community of a necessary three-day power outage, which required the District to run the diesel generator Powerhouse. This outage stretched to three weeks and we were certainly thankful for the electric redundancy the Powerhouse brings.

The highlight of the summer was definitely the Kirkwood Summer Festival held on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Over 600 people attended this year's event which featured an amazing silent auction. The 2016 Summer Festival raised almost \$36,000 which was used to purchase new protective clothing for our firefighters and to hire a seasonal firefighter during the busy winter months. Another highlight of 2016 was the improvements to the District's website, especially the member services section. GPS tracking units have been installed on all of our snow removal equipment which records time spent in each contract area. This will be very helpful in determining efficiencies and verifying contract amounts. The District is also working on automating requests for service and the ability to notify customers when their snow removal had been completed.

Looking ahead to 2017, Kirkwood has received another solid early season snow fall and hopes to see this continue throughout the winter. The Board is planning on again lowering Electric Rates and revising the methodology for calculating Water and Wastewater Rates to the system used by Electric and Propane.

The District will be continuing with a number of Public Safety projects, including working with the County to station an Alpine County Sheriff in Kirkwood, working with Caltrans on improving the safety for motorists traveling in the "Ice Box" corner of Highway 88 just east of Kirkwood, and in continuing to increase and enhance the Fire Department staffing levels.

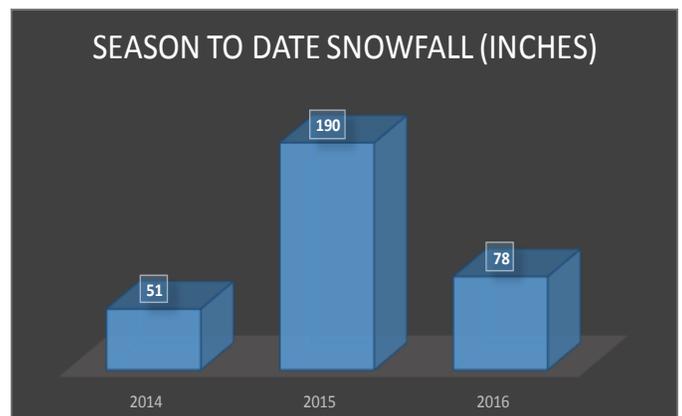
Thanks for all of your support over the year and we look forward to the challenges and triumphs in 2017.

Follow this link to view the KMPUD Annual Report: <https://www.kmpud.com/news/annual-report-2015-16/>



## Winter Update

The beginning of the 2016/2017 Season has been wet, though at times warmer than we would like. October through December, Kirkwood received 29 inches of rain – over 9 inches fell in 24 hours on October 16<sup>th</sup>! Another heavy storm on December 10<sup>th</sup> dropped several inches of rain in the Valley before cold temperatures returned, freezing the standing water and leaving up to 2 inches of ice on roads and driveways. District staff responded with sand, and more sand, spreading approximately 17 cubic yards of sand to improve driving and parking conditions. A sand mix is being used this year, which is formulated to be sensitive to our environment and have minimal visual impact. By all accounts it is working very well. Kirkwood has also welcomed 78 inches of snow to date, including a foot+ storm that came just in time for the busy Christmas season. Our season to date snowfall is 73% of average based on the past ten years, but some warmer storms have provided great mountain coverage and the resort has been fully open since December 19<sup>th</sup>. A comparison of snow fall totals over the past three seasons is shown to the right. We are looking forward to more snow in the new year!



## KNOX-BOX Rapid Entry System

In a remote community, gaining access into private residences in emergency situations can be vital. The Kirkwood Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) recognizes this need and encourages homeowners to participate by purchasing the Knox-Box Rapid Entry System.

Knox-Box devices are heavy-duty, high security key boxes which can hold building entrance keys, electronic access codes or cards, building plans and other emergency information. The devices are purchased by property owners and mounted near a building entrance.

Knox Box Devices:

- Provide immediate emergency entry
- Prevents costly forced-entry damage
- Allows for re-securing undamaged doors after an emergency

Several Kirkwood properties are already protected by the Knox-Box Rapid Entry System. If you would like to join this program you can purchase your Knox-Box online at [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com). or contact the District main office at (209) 258-4444 for more information.



## Snow Removal Service

For Snow Removal Service during business hours (Monday to Friday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM) call the District main office at (209) 258-4444. Alerting the District to your estimated arrival or departure time allows us to prioritize your driveway during normal snow removal operations. Send us an email at [info@kmpud.com](mailto:info@kmpud.com) or call the District main office to let us know when you're arriving or departing. For service **during a snow event outside of normal business hours** call the Snow Phone at (209) 256-9121. Calling the Snow Phone will put you directly touch with an Operator who can respond to your needs. Please note that Snow Removal Service typically begins at 3-4 inches of snowfall.

## News From Kirkwood Mountain Resort

### Tesla Charging Stations Ready for the Public

Car charging stations at Kirkwood Mountain Resort are now complete and ready for the public! There are six Tesla charging stations and two Universal charging stations located in the VIP Parking lot under the large staircase. Currently only accessible through valet at this time, a parking attendant will be available to assist guests in charging. Kirkwood expects to have pay stations attached to the charging inputs in the future. Multiple Teslas have been charged already and Tim Edison, transportation and parking manager of Kirkwood Mountain Resort says that the main reason for implementing this project is that it is the right thing to do for our planet. "We can have an impact, no matter how small, in reducing the carbon emissions from fossil fuel vehicles, and offering charging stations supports those who are doing their part too." Edison said.



## Volcano Service

If you are having issues with your television reception please call Volcano Communications Group at (209) 296-2280. If your issues go unresolved please let the District know by emailing [info@kmpud.com](mailto:info@kmpud.com). One of the District's responsibilities under Volcano's franchise agreement is to ensure that Volcano meets customer service standards.

### **KMPUD Board of Directors:**

**Bob Epstein - President; Eric Richert - Vice President;**

**Standish O'Grady -Treasurer; Peter Dornbrook - Secretary; Geoff Smith - Assistant Secretary**

**Website: [www.kmpud.com](http://www.kmpud.com) Call: (209) 258-4444 Email: [Info@kmpud.com](mailto:Info@kmpud.com)**

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